

## ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

5 The present invention provides a novel approach to gene  
therapy of restricted areas such as tumors. The methods introduced  
here comprise: (a) placing a gene of interest in a plasmid vector driven  
by a heat or light inducible promoter; (b) modifying this vector by  
including a tetracycline responsive fusion protein which acts as a  
transcriptional activator, thus permitting regulation of gene expression  
10 by varying the levels of drug and; (c) modifying this vector by  
including DNA sequences that reduce or eliminate expression of genes  
in normal bystander cells. Also provided are a set of vectors for both  
sustained and regulable expression. There is also presented novel  
vectors for the gene therapy treatment of local and metastatic breast,  
15 ovarian and prostate cancer.